

Claims

What is claimed is

- 5 1. A method for communication between technical devices
being nodes in networks, wherein a common group label is
assigned to nodes being a member of a group of nodes, and
wherein the nodes of said group can cooperate with all
other members of the same group of nodes, **characterized**
10 **in**
 - accessing a group of nodes by a node not being a member
of said group of nodes;
 - detecting a group label of said node accessing said
group of nodes;
 - checking whether nodes with said detected group label
are allowed to access said accessed group of nodes; and
 - providing services or resources by said group of nodes
to said accessing node.
- 15 2. Method according to claim 1, wherein the nodes of said
group are assigned to or under control of the same user,
or group of users.
- 20 3. Method according to claim 1, wherein a unique label is
used for identifying an individual node.
- 25 4. Method according claim 1, wherein said node is a member
of not more than one group of nodes.
- 30 5. Method according to claim 1, wherein the access to
contents or services within said group of nodes can be
restricted by a user-independent lock mechanism.

6. Method according to claim 1, wherein characteristic information regarding the group of nodes is contained in a data set, the data set being readable for the nodes being a member of or having access to said group of nodes.

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7. Method according to claim 1, wherein a connection between two nodes has a status, the status defining whether both connected nodes belong to the same group of nodes or not.

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8. Method according to claim 1, wherein the relation between groups of nodes is further specified such that if a first group of nodes is allowed to access a second group of nodes, then said second group of nodes is also allowed to access said first group of nodes.

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9. Method according to claim 1, wherein the relation between groups of nodes is further specified such that if a first group of nodes is allowed to access a second group of nodes, and the second group of nodes is allowed to access a third group of nodes, then this constellation automatically leads to that said first group of nodes is allowed to access said third group of nodes, either with or without interaction of said second group of nodes.

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10. An apparatus for communication between technical devices being nodes in networks, wherein a common group label is assigned to nodes being a member of a group of nodes, and wherein the nodes of said group can cooperate with all other members of the same group of nodes, the apparatus using the method for communication according to claim 1.

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